GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:119
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2015
Computerisation of PDS
Nishank Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States where computerisation of the Public Distribution System (PDS) has been carried out to check irregularities along with the details/salient features of the scheme for complete computerisation of PDS;

(b) the details of the action plan formulated to ensure distribution in remote, inaccessible tribal areas especially those affected by natural/man made disasters;

(c) whether any assessment has been made by the Government to check large scale wastage of foodgrains; and

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof alng with the measures taken to check such wastage?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a): With a view to check irregularities in the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Government has initiated a plan scheme on 'End-to-end Computerization of TPDS Operations' on cost sharing basis for all the States/UTs. The components of the scheme involves digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other data bases, computerization of supply chain management, setting up of transparency portals, FPS automation etc.

(b): TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of States/UTs where the operational responsibility for lifting of foodgrains from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) depots, identification of beneficiaries and distribution of foodgrains to the beneficiaries lies with the State/UT Government. In the event of natural calamities like flood and drought, based on the request of the State Governments, additional foodgrains are provided to the States/UTs at Minimum Support Price. Government also provides assistance in the form of manpower, material, and equipment for proper implementation of TPDS at the time of natural calamities.

(c) & (d): Government makes assessment of the wastage of foodgrains from time to time and takes necessary action such as adoption of scientific storage practices, fumigation of the godowns, spraying of insecticides, regular periodic inspection of the stocks/godowns etc.
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